

Saint Peter and Paul's Catholic Church and Rectory  
213-215 Goldsborough Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-448  
1866-70

Saint Peter and Paul Catholic Church is an example of the Gothic revival interpreted in a modest frame church of the mid nineteenth century. Quatrefoil and trefoil motifs appear in the pointed arch openings of windows and doors, but dominant decorative elements are those derived from structural elements— brackets and posts. Standing as it does in a residential area of mid and late nineteenth century frame dwellings, the pyramical bell tower provides a counterpoint to the regular, lower house roofs. The building's scale and position, however, are comparable to the houses, maintaining the regularity and intimacy of a street of dwellings. No regular Catholic services were held in Easton until after the Civil War; before that time Redemptorist Fathers came whenever possible by ferry from Annapolis. The church building was dedicated in 1868; the rectory, a two-and-a-half story frame structure, was completed two years later.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2104484509

T 448

Town of Easton

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

213-215 Goldsborough Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

\_\_\_ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_ STRUCTURE

\_\_\_ SITE

\_\_\_ OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

\_\_\_ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_\_ BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

\_\_\_ IN PROCESS

\_\_\_ BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

\_\_\_ UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_ WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_ YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_ NO

#### PRESENT USE

\_\_\_ AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_ MUSEUM

\_\_\_ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_ PARK

\_\_\_ EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_ ENTERTAINMENT

☒ RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_ GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_ SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_ INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_ TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_ MILITARY

\_\_\_ OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Saints Peter and Paul's Rectory

Telephone #: 301-822-2344

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Father Clark

Goldsborough Street and Aurora Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

Liber #: 125

Folio #: 257

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

T-448

## CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small church building stands on the north side of Goldsborough Street, and is situated very close to the sidewalk.

The structure is two stories in height and covered by a gable roof which faces the street and has a cornice and return. The main entrance is in the center south gable end. A hood with an A-roof and an infill of sawn wooden ornament, covers the entrance. The hood is carried by ornamental wooden brackets and has shaped exposed rafter ends. The double entrance doors, painted red, are modern. They are set in a pointed arch opening with a round transom light of colored glass. On either side of the doors are small windows filled with opalescent glass. A rose tracery window fills the upper portion of the gable.

A square one-bay bell tower rises from the southeast corner of the building. Another entrance exists in the south facade of the bell tower; the pointed arch-shaped opening has modern red double doors and a tracery window in the transom light. A pent eave decorates the tower at the second floor level. Above this is a slender rectangular window and a round opening filled with painted wood.

The belfry has pointed arch openings in each of its four sides; they are filled with wooden louvers and trimmed with scalloped wooden ornament. The tower is topped by a pyramidal roof, which has flared eaves. A steeply pitched false gable breaks through the cornice on each elevation. Wooden bands and corner boards on the belfry add a planar geometric quality to the Gothic revival ornament. A cross with ornamental base tops the tower.

The building is five bays deep. A stained glass window set in a pointed arch opening is found in each bay. At the north gable end is a five sided chancery.

The structure was originally covered with German shiplap siding. It is now stuccoed and painted tan with dark green trim,

To the east is the rectory, a two-and-a-half story structure with gable roof. The gable end faces the street and is finished with a cornice and return. The three-bay house has six over six sashes in each window. The main entrance in the west bay is covered by a one-bay entrance porch with an A-roof carried by round columns. Like the church, this residence is covered with tan stucco and has green trim and a green asphalt shingle roof. It was constructed by the parish in 1870.

Through the years the inside of the church has been altered to reflect changes in fashion and in literacy. Early photographers show that it had painted decoration on the ceiling and wainscoting. A fine brass chandelier, holding candles, hung in the center of the sacristy. In the early twentieth century an embossed-tin ceiling was added. The building is currently undergoing a renovation and modernization.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	Church 1866 Rectory 1870	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Saints Peter and Paul's Parish
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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This structure is significant for its architecture and for the place it has had in the establishment of Catholicism in Talbot County.

The building is an example of the Gothic revival interpreted in a modest frame church of the mid-nineteenth century. Quatrefoil and trefoil motifs appear in the pointed arch openings of windows and doors but dominant decorative elements are those derived from structural elements—brackets and posts. Standing as it does in a residential area of mid and late nineteenth century frame dwellings, the pyramical bell tower provides a counterpoint to the regular, lower house roofs. The building's scale and position, however, are comparable to the houses, maintaining the regularity and intimacy of a street of dwellings.

No regular Catholic services were held in Easton until after the end of the Civil War. With the end of slavery, it became urgent that the land-owners and farmers make an effort to induce Irish and German immigrants to come to this area. Since many were of the Catholic faith, even the Protestants backed this movement and contributed financially towards getting a Parish set up and a church built. Among interested people were Mr. and Mrs. Howes Goldsborough, whose letters concerning the construction of this building are extant.

In 1866, a lot was purchased on Goldsborough Street at Aurora and construction was started. Until the building was completed, services were held in the Odd Fellows Hall. The Rectory, adjoining, wasn't completed until 1870. (T-1)

The significance of this congregation has gone far beyond their regular church services.

The Jesuit fathers started a grade school in Easton, which has expanded to include a full High School term as well.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.

Articles from The Easton Star, June 12, 1866.Notes from an interview with Father Clark of Saints Peter and Paul Church,  
July 1976.Letters of Mr. and Mrs. Howes Goldsborough concerning founding of the  
Church, C1866.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**NA**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

None

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Historic Easton, Incorporated

DATE

October 26, 1976

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Box 1171TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,  
301-822-2706 President

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

STATE

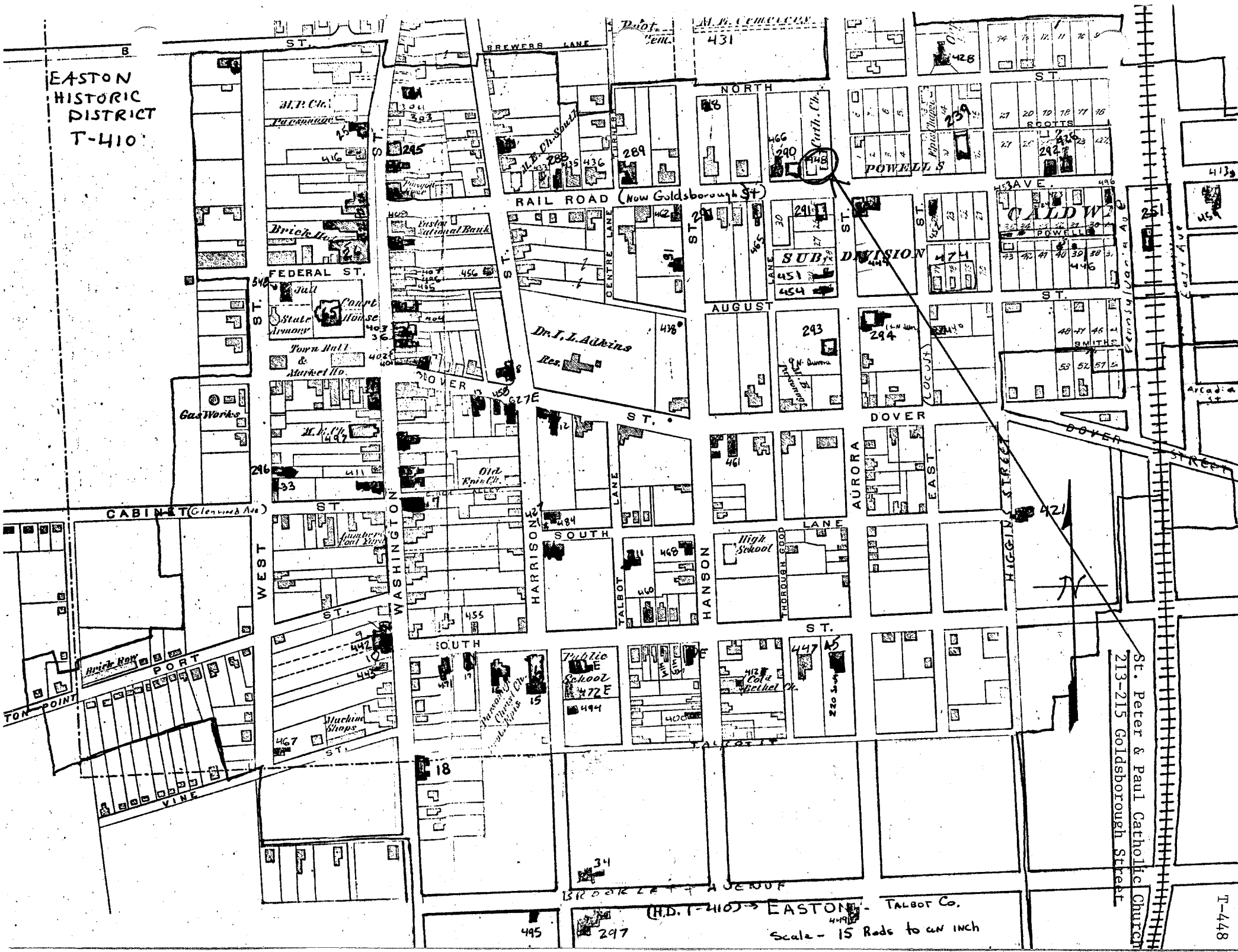
Maryland 21601

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

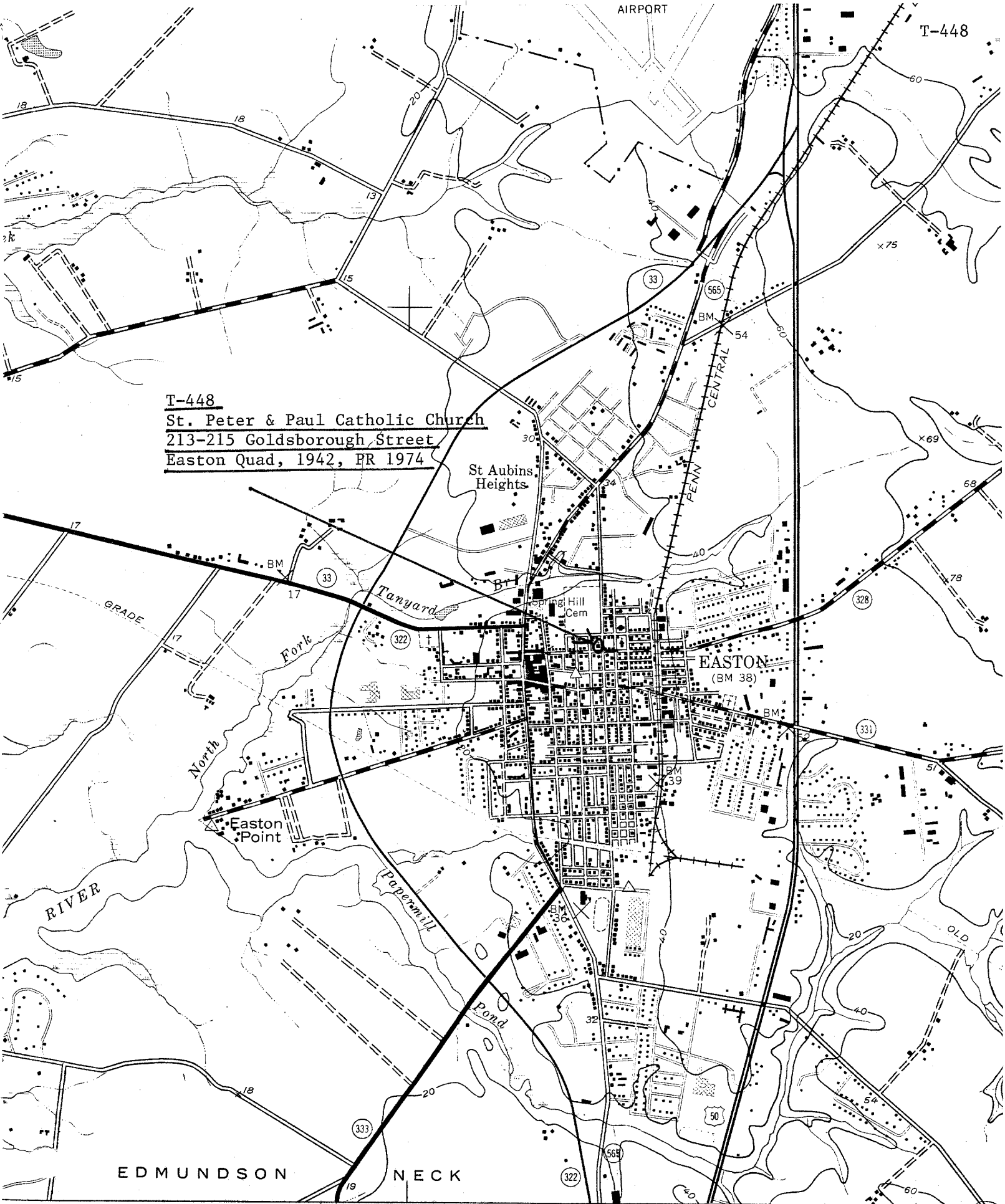
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

EASTON  
HISTORIC  
DISTRICT  
T-410



St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church  
213-215 Goldborough Street

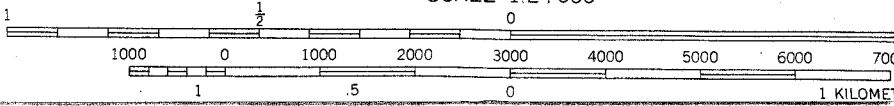
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T-448  
St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church  
213-215 Goldsborough Street  
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974

vey

metric methods





SS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH T-448  
13-115 GOLDSBOROUGH STREET  
EASTON, MD.  
VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST  
AUGUST 1976  
MILFRITZ

(RETORY AT RIGHT OF PHOTOGRAPH)



14 x 1.82

52% 448

T-448